LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) A method of forming an ad-hoc wireless network under the control of ad-hoc software consisting of:

broadcasting or multi-casting from at least a first wireless network interface on a first wireless network capable device at least one data packet from the software including a request to join an ad-hoc network and a profile of the requesting device, the profile including the MAC address of the wireless network interface and the unique identifier of the software license instance,

receiving at a second wireless network interface on a second wireless network capable device under the control of the networking software a data packet being a request to join the ad-hoc wireless network;

responding from the second wireless network device to the first wireless network device with a confirmation of receipt and a profile of the responding device.

2. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the initial request to join is further broadcast or multi-cast from the second wireless network device.

3. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first wireless network device may additionally broadcast or multi-cast packets requesting an identifying response from every wireless network device capable of joining the ad-hoc wireless network and within range.

4-8. (canceled)

9. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the wireless network capable device is a computer and the presence of responding devices is shown on the computer display.

10. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the presence of a responding device is as an icon on the computer display and wherein operations on the icon can show information on the profile or send a user message to a network device represented by the icon.

11. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the computer may maintain a list of contactable wireless network devices.

12. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein the list may include an attribute which prevents display of that wireless network device presence.

13-14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) An apparatus for forming a wireless ad-hoc network consisting of:

a wireless network capable device with at least one wireless network interface implemented in software, the wireless network interface being programmed to:

(a) contact adjacent wireless network devices with information on the profile of the wireless network capable device, the profile including the MAC address of the wireless network interface and the unique identifier of the software license instance;

(b) respond to a request for information from a similar network capable device with information on its own profile

(c) forward received profiles to other network capable devices.

16-19. (canceled)

20. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the profile further includes an IP address.